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DAILY
**CONVERSATIONS
IN CHINESE
MEDIA**



**ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON
CHINA AND ASIA**

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I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **NBA Boston Celtics basketball player Kanter trends:** Outspoken NBA player Kanter has posted a tweet and [video on Twitter](#), calling for support for Tibet's "independence" and referencing to Xi as a 'dictator'. It has led to the immediate ban of viewing of NBA games in China.
- **China's 'Piano Man' arrested:** The arrest of Li Yundi on charges of hiring a prostitute triggered heated discussion among netizens. His Weibo account was banned for 15 days on notification of the Beijing police.
- **Netizens on comments of Burns:** Joe Biden's nominee to be the U.S. Ambassador to China Nicholas Burns has [stated](#) that the United States wants to turn Taiwan into a "difficult nut" to help Taiwan enhance its asymmetric defense. Chinese netizens bluntly commented "There are nuts that are difficult to crack in the world, but there are no nuts that can't be knocked off. It depends on how big a stone is used. No matter how hard it is, it is a nut, and the boulder will be broken."
- **Weibo laments over the rising price of Cement and Coal:** The price of cement has [risen to double](#) in less than half a month. A message from netizens on the leadership notice board was that "I will build a house in a few days, but the price of cement will rise sharply and will have to cry without tears" received a reply from the Office of the Nanning Municipal Committee of the Communist Party of China with a clarification that "the production process of cement requires a large amount of coal.
- **Netizens criticize discussion on Taiwan by Britain:** As the issue is not on the agenda of the NATO meeting, British Secretary of Defense Ben Wallace's remarks on Taiwan's security were [criticized](#) by netizens on Chinese Social media with comments such as "This is the 21st century, not the 19th century."
- **News of Indian outlet on Indian weapons trends on Weibo:** [India Today](#) has reported visuals of non-lethal weapons, including Vajra, Trishul, Sapper Punch, Dand and Bhadra — developed by an Uttar Pradesh-based company, Apasteron for use by soldiers. This story and the video in it has been shared widely on Weibo.
- **Road to PLA's post getting cemented:** A Chinese twitter account has reposted a [post](#) from Weibo which contains satellite image that shows Road to PLA's Shenxianwan post has started asphalt paving. The post is at an altitude of 5,265m situated 7km north of Karakoram Pass.

II. News in China

- President [Xi Jinping inspected the Yellow River delta](#) in Dongying City, Shandong Province.

- Xi also visited the Yellow River Estuary Pier, the Yellow River Delta Ecological Monitoring Center, and the Yellow River Delta National Nature Reserve to observe the condition of water in the Yellow River; the ecological environment of the Yellow River Delta wetland, and learn about the ecological protection and high-quality development of the Yellow River Basin.
- You Quan (current Secretary of the Secretariat of the Chinese Communist Party and Director of the United Front Work Department), during a survey in Guizhou, emphasized that it is necessary to thoroughly study and implement the spirit of the Central National Work Conference to effectively build the Chinese nation community. You Quan went to Guiyang, Bijie, and Qiannan and visited deep into rural enterprises, visited ethnic schools, ethnic cultural museums, and cast-Lao Chinese ethnic community awareness education bases, and had discussions with relevant responsible comrades of provinces, cities, and counties, as well as local cadres and mass representatives, and conducted investigations.
- Beijing Center for Disease Control and Prevention introduced at all districts in Beijing have started to strengthen the supervision of the enhanced new COVID-19 virus vaccine. Intensified vaccination will be implemented. At this stage, it will first be carried out for key populations with a higher risk of infection and disease transmission.
- China's stance on Afghanistan was stated by Wang Wenbin as 'the new Afghan regime is still in the process of being established, and the international community is still observing and coordinating. China has maintained close communication with relevant countries. It is deemed necessary to engage in dialogue and contact with Afghanistan.'
- The Cyberspace Administration of China published a "List of Sources of Internet News Information". The list contains 1358 news source outlets.

III. India Watch

- A list such as "List of Sources of Internet News Information" was last published in 2016. It basically means that Chinese people should only read or repost news from these listed websites. Such tactics will only help further China's propaganda spreading and misinformation within the country, spreading its information warfare targeted at attacking rival powers such as India.
- The current price of coal in China is about 1700 yuan/ton which is an increase of 143% year-on-year, thus increasing the cost of power generation. This coupled with the impact of the "dual control" policy of energy consumption, has led to a significant increase in cement market prices hinting that the policy may have backfired.